MARGE ROUKEMA
District, New Jersey

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PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY
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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Consular Section
May 5, 1981

~~April 21, 1981~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 3 1984
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His Excellency Jose Napoleon Duarte
President, Revolutionary Junta of Government
Casa Presidencial
San Salvador, El Salvador

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing with regard to Mr. John Sullivan, Jr., an American journalist who has been missing in El Salvador since December 28, 1980. Mr. Sullivan and his family reside in my Congressional District in the State of New Jersey; and I have taken a personal interest in his case since learning of his disappearance.

As you know, a suspect, Sr. Hans Christ, is being held in the United States for possible extradition to El Salvador in connection with the murders on January 3 of two Americans in the San Salvador Sheraton Hotel. I also understand that another suspect, Sr. Ricardo Sol Meza, is currently being held in El Salvador in connection with the murders.

Since these murders took place only a short time after Mr. Sullivan had checked into the same hotel, it would seem that there is at least enough of a connection upon which to pursue the suspects' potential knowledge of what may have happened to Mr. Sullivan. It is my every hope that you will instruct your government to raise all questions with respect to Mr. Sullivan's disappearance. Any information thus obtained might provide further leads in your government's continuing investigation of the case. In addition, Mr. Sullivan's family would be most appreciative of knowing whatever may be learned.

Mr. President, as their Congresswoman, and as a parent myself, I have been greatly touched by the plight of the Sullivan family. I have found them to be a very tender, close family whose efforts on behalf of their son and brother would seem to exceed anyone's normal capacity for persistence. Yet, their efforts and that of our government have been necessarily limited

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His Excellency Jose Napoleon Duarte April 21, 1981

by the normal constraints arising from your own nation's sovereignty. Consequently, the fate of their loved one is almost entirely within your power. I would implore you to exercise that power to its fullest extent in attempting to bring a resolution to this tragedy.

We are all watching and hoping for an early and favorable response.

Very truly yours,

Marge Roukema
Member of Congress

MSR:tw

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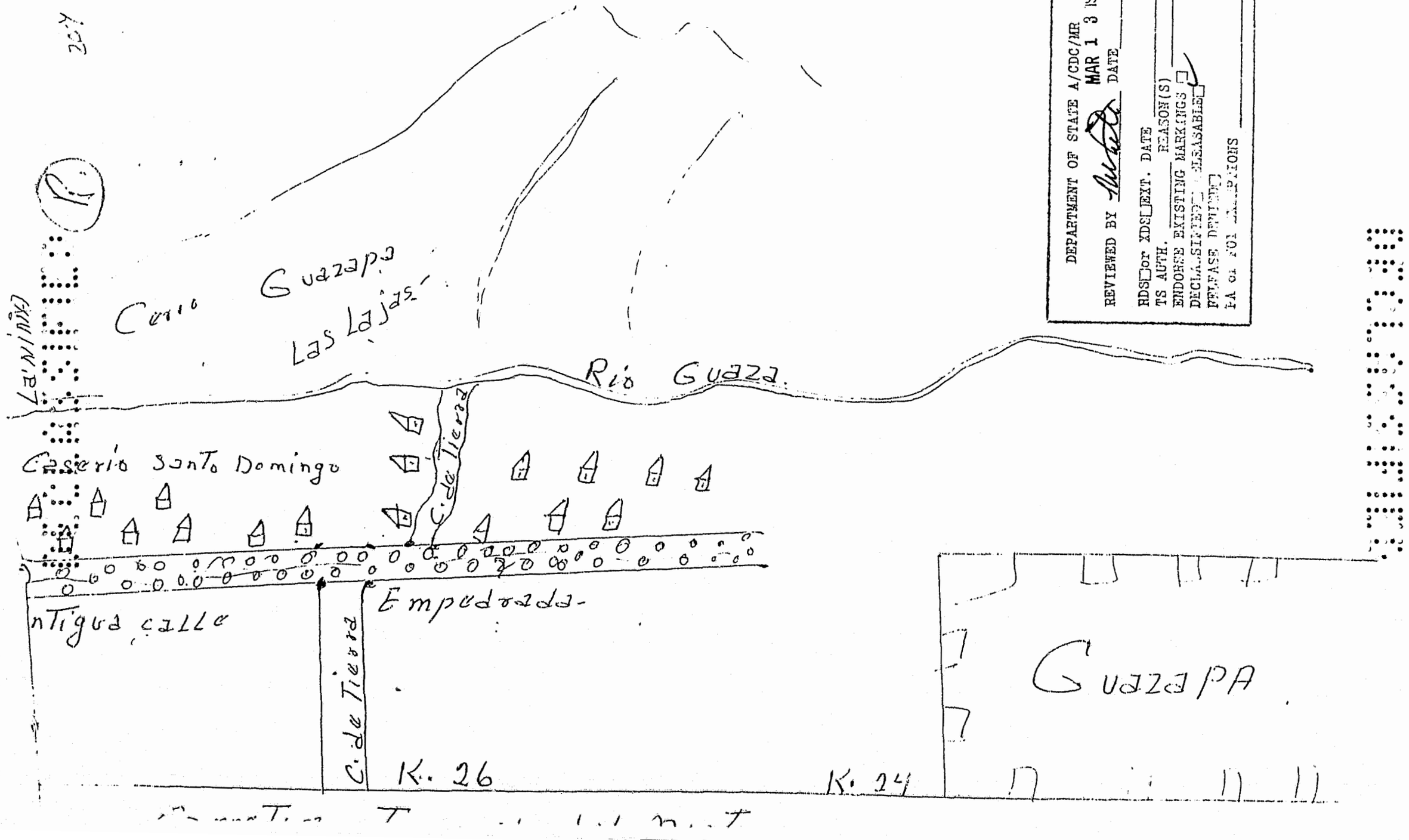

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